

Thomas Crosby
(1634 – 1702)

Thomas Crosby arrived in Boston from England in 1635. He graduated from Harvard College in 1653. He became religious teacher in Eastham about 1655 and served until about 1670.

Like John Mayo before him, Mr. Crosby was university educated, mild mannered, peace loving and preached excellent sermons. While Mr. Mayo moved on to Boston, Mr. Crosby was satisfied to remain on Cape Cod.

As the Eastham congregation grew, the Town wanted a full-time pastor rather than a part-time preacher. Mr. Crosby refused to be ordained. This led to a call for a new minister which was answered by Samuel Treat.

In the late 1690's Mr. Crosby moved to what is now Brewster where he continued his mercantile business. He was one of the founders of the church in the Brewster area. He died in Boston in 1702 while there on business. Thomas and his wife Sarah had twelve children.

1666

Thomas Crosby purchased a dwelling house and four acres of adjacent upland near the meeting house and the cemetery. The property was purchased from Jonathan Sparrow and his mother Pandora Sparrow. They had inherited the property from Richard Sparrow, deceased husband of Pandora. Jonathan and Pandora moved to property owned by Jonathan at Pochet where Jonathan gave Pandora four acres and a house.
PDF A140, M268, M269.

1673

Granted to Thomas Crosby six acres of upland next to where he lived and next to land of William Walker. Bounds were indicated by marked trees at the four corners. The property was about 40 pole (660 feet) by 24 pole (396 feet). The property was on the highway to the meeting house.
PDF A120, M240, S61.

1682

The same six acres granted to Thomas Crosby in 1673 were sold by Mr. Crosby to John Mayo in 1682. PDF A120, M240, S61.

1703

Granted to Thomas Crosby about four acres of meadow on Pochet flats. It was the twenty-seventh lot of thirty lots laid out the previous year. It was next to the twenty-sixth lot belonging to James Rogers. PDF A140, M268, M269.

The land owned by Thomas Crosby described in these records amounts to about fourteen acres. By 1745 no other Crosbys received Eastham land grants.